

sanction of the municipal authorities. English laborers, provided they make a proper selection of the *locus in quo* are entitled to meet and discuss matters without disturbing the peace. I fear that on some occasions co-operative labor when defeated in its object in securing greater wages and shorter hours has sometimes indulged in violence. Forgetting its own claim for liberty, it has gone the length of refusing it to other men as needy and as much in want as themselves, and willing to take the work which the strikers had abandoned upon similar terms. It will never do in acknowledging or recognizing the right of co-operative labor to strike when it pleases, to prevent other men from taking the same work. It is very true that strikers receive a great deal of public support and sympathy, but it seems to me that to add anything in the form of violence, being in possession of this sympathy and support, would be unnecessary; yet those who have under the law the right to strike, not merely on the docks in England, but in other parts of Great Britain, have resorted on many occasions to force. This is to be deprecated, because it injures the cause of the laborers themselves. If we want a happy and prosperous country all classes must be happy and contented, and that cannot be as long as we have those conflicts between labor and capital. Those men must fully understand that by interrupting the course of trade and preventing the loading and unloading of vessels in the docks, their actions at once destroy the very fund that supports them at other seasons when, as is sometimes the case, the employers themselves are not doing a profitable business.

Some reference has been made to the fisheries, both as to the commission on the improving of the curing of fish, and otherwise. I dare say that the system of curing can be improved in Canada, but there is one thing we want, and that is, we should know more of the natural history of our fish and the causes that tend to their destruction. With more improved ways of destroying them, our fisheries will be rapidly so impoverished that they will not be worth following as an industry. The people of my Province have been holding meetings during the past summer, and have passed resolutions that some restrictions must be placed upon the methods of

fishing, or else our valuable fisheries will very soon be things of the past. Mackerel fishing for instance, according to the recent American system of using purse nets and seines, has a very disastrous effect upon the fish and the fishing grounds. I am not myself conversant with the ordinary routine work of the fisheries, but I have conversed with others who are, and from what I have learned I believe the true policy for Canada to pursue in this respect is to close the three-mile limit against nettings of all kinds, and let us reserve the waters inside of the three-mile limit exclusively for line fishing. In that way the fish which would be taken inside of the three-mile line—mackerel particularly—would be of the very first quality, and the waters of the three-mile limit, being shallow, would no longer be poisoned, as they are now in danger of being poisoned by the heaving overboard of the refuse taken up in the seines. The vessels are fitted out for mackerel, and anything but mackerel is to them useless, and is thrown overboard, to the great detriment of the fisheries. It is a question well worth enquiring into, and I believe myself that the salvation of our fisheries consists in that. I am not one of those in favor of carrying out the Treaty of 1818 in its entirety. I believe it was a good treaty in its day, but that day has passed, and it is less beneficial now to the people of my Province. I am not speaking for those of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but it does seem to me that to trade with the Americans is far more advantageous to us than it is to exclude them. There was a time when we had in operation treaties admitting Americans into our ports, giving them the same privileges that we enjoy ourselves; there was a time also when they were admitted by license, and during those periods our Province made as great progress in wealth and importance as it has done for years. Why should not those times be restored? I believe if the Americans were admitted to the harbors of the Lower Provinces to obtain ice and bait, and some of the minor items of supplies—transshipment, &c.—that they would set in motion a vast amount of labor which is comparatively unemployed in the winter. For instance, in Prince Edward Island there are sheets of beautiful fresh water well adapted to ice cutting. The population have